

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Polish security forces (wojska wewnętrzna) are composed of 18 Internal Security Corps (KBW) regiments and about 18 Military Border Guard (WOP) brigades. The commander of the security forces, which have their headquarters in Warsaw, is General Hubner, who in turn is subordinate to the Ministry of Interior (sic). According to informant, Hubner came to Poland from the USSR in 1944 with the so-called Polish Army. The commander of the KBW is believed to be Colonel Bibrowski.1
2. A KBW regiment is stationed in each of the Polish voivodships and is charged with protecting all of the important installations within the voivodship, such as industrial installations, railroads, some military depots, labor camps, some prisons and some public buildings belonging to the government and/or Party. The less important installations are guarded by industrial guards, railroad guards, forest guards, etc., who are generally older men and even women. There may be thousands of these latter-mentioned guards in a given voivodship, depending upon the number of facilities which are located there. Each KBW regiment has a voivodship Security Inspector who is in charge of these industrial guards, railroad guards, etc.
3. The following units are stationed in Rzeszow Voivodship: 1st Infantry Regiment, headquarters of the 10th Infantry Division, and 4th KBW Regiment. In addition there are such support organs as quartermaster units, medical units, etc. The commander of the 4th KBW Regiment is Major (fmu) Kowalewski. [redacted] He replaced a Soviet Lieutenant Colonel (fmu) Pliskim in 1951 who was transferred to the command of the KBW regiment stationed in Bialystok.
4. The 4th KBW Regiment [redacted] occupies the barracks located on ulica Lwowska in Rzeszow. The following is the organizational structure of this regiment:

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- 2 -

- a. Regimental Headquarters, i.e., Regimental Commander, 1st Assistant (Politruk) and 2nd Assistant (Chief of the Regimental Training).
- b. Regimental Staff, which is composed of the following sections and personnel: Informacja Section (intelligence and counter-espionage section); Politruk Section; Military Training Department; Operations Section; Secret Bureau; Chief of Staff "with radio station"; "Aide-de-camp Bureau", Voivodship Security Inspector and his offices; Sports' Instructor; Party and ZMP (Union of Polish Youth) secretaries; and the Security Guard, composed of about 15 soldiers, for guarding the regimental commander and his staff.
- c. Quartermaster Section, which consists of a quartermaster, supply officer (oficer mundurowy), provisions officer (oficer zynoscowy), paymaster, and legal officer. Also subordinate to the quartermaster section is a "house-keeping" platoon (pluton gospodarczy), composed of about 50 men. The house-keeping platoon has the following sections: house-keeping section composed of cooks, storekeepers, shoemakers, tailors, etc.; horse section with about 15 draft horses; and dog section with six men and 6 dogs (3 watch dogs (*psy wartownicze*) and 3 tracking dogs (*psy sledcze*)).
- d. Special Company of about 100 men, consisting of the following sections and platoons: artillery platoon equipped with four artillery guns of unknown caliber which are drawn by [redacted] cars; machine gun platoon equipped with four Maxim guns mounted on a Sokolov chassis with wheels; mortar section equipped with five mortars; and an "armored-car ammunition platoon" (pluton baonowych samochodow amunicyjnych)². This armored car platoon is equipped with four Soviet-model cars that are each armed with a machine gun mounted in a turret.
- e. Communications Company of about 80 men, which has a telephone platoon equipped with Soviet-model telephone apparatus which is called U.N.A., and a radio platoon equipped with eight Soviet model R.B.M. radios (transmitters-receivers). These radios are in two parts, namely: the radio apparatus itself, which weighs 12 kilograms, and the batteries, which weigh about 15 kilograms. The radios are equipped with two antennas, one which is shaped like an "umbrella" for use up to distances of 60 kilometers, and another called in Polish "Amerykanka" for use up to distances of over 100 kilometers. These radios are also equipped with "radio telephones" for use over short distances. The radios, including batteries, are generally carried by trucks. The specialists for this platoon are trained at the Army Communications Center in Sieradz (N 51-36, E 18-45).
- f. Transport Company, composed of about 50 permanent personnel. This company is equipped with about 10 passenger cars; 140 trucks (between 1-4 tons), models Willys, Studebaker, GAS and ZIS; and three motorcycles. Soldiers are often taken from other companies of this regiment to drive these vehicles when units of the regiment are sent on so-called operations to pacify a particular area in the voivodship.
- g. "W.C.Z." Platoon³ of about 30 men who are equipped and trained to service the state telephone lines and erect military field lines to the main telephone lines. This platoon always accompanies the regimental unit that goes out on an operational mission and usually takes over the public post offices, which are located in the operational area.
- h. Engineering Platoon of about 30 men, who are trained and equipped to clear operational areas of mines, i.e., sapping. If it is necessary to repair or reconstruct a destroyed bridge, the regiment usually asks for the assistance of army engineers who may be billeted near the operational area.
- i. Three Battalions, each composed of three companies. The three companies in turn are composed of three platoons, and each platoon of three sections (druzyna). A company consists of about 6 officers, 23 non-commissioned officers, and 96 soldiers; and a section consisting of 12 men which usually has the following composition: one N.C.O. who is the section leader; one N.C.O. who is the assistant section leader and light-machine gunner; assistant light-machine gunner; ammunition bearer; observer (scout); communications man; sharpshooter; and five riflemen. The armament of a section generally

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25X1

- 3 -

consists of one Soviet model Degtyarev light machine gun, seven Soviet model machine pistols called PPS, and four Soviet model Mossin infantry rifles. All battalions and their sub-units have an equal number of personnel except during the recruiting period when one particular company may have an exceptionally large number of recruits.

5. Recruits for the KBW regiments are called in during the spring and are generally sent to recruit centers for their initial training period rather than to the KBW regiments themselves. In 1951 a recruit center was located near Debica (N 50-03, E 21-25) and in 1952 one such recruit center was in Jawidze-Rokitno in the voivodship of Lublin. After successfully completing the three months training at the center, the recruit is usually sent to another center to receive training in his specialization, after which he is finally assigned to a KBW regiment. The 4th KBW regiment, for example, only trains such specialists as sappers, cooks, and telephone servicemen, while radio technicians, drivers, etc., receive their training at other places. Many specialists of the KBW regiments are trained in army centers.
6. Every KBW regiment is obliged to send a number of its officers and men to the so-called Brygada Specjalna (Special Brigade) in Warsaw for a year's service. The Brygada Specjalna has the duty to guard the members of the government, Party officials, and other dignitaries during their working hours and public appearances, and even their private homes. The 4th KBW Regiment sent between 100 to 200 men yearly to this brigade in Warsaw. The soldiers and officers are permitted to remain in this special KBW brigade for only one year because it is feared that a longer period of time would enable the soldier to learn too much about their charges' customs, habits, etc. and be used by anti-Communist elements to attempt assassinations. Furthermore, members of this Special Brigade are constantly observed by the most trustworthy UB agents, and are forbidden to mingle with other soldiers or civilians. Members of this brigade do, however, receive new uniforms, better pay than the ordinary soldier, and better rations.
7. Soldiers in all KBW regiments are granted liberty about 2 or 3 times a year, generally on Sundays, to go into town, but always in groups of three or more men. During a KBW soldier's service of 29 to 30 months or longer, he is not granted any leave, except when there is a death in the family, at which time he is granted a few days' leave to attend the funeral. All KBW soldiers are forbidden to attend church.

8. [redacted] the soldiers in the KBW regiments hate the Soviets and the Communists and the more active officers, regardless of whether or not they are Poles. The KBW soldiers in turn are hated by the people and do not dare travel through the country alone because of the fear of being killed. Therefore, when it is necessary to dispatch a soldier to some place in the voivodship, he is usually sent there by truck in the company of at least six armed soldiers. The officers of the KBW regiments usually go into town in civilian attire, or if in military garb, they are usually armed.

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1. [redacted] Comment: A Colonel Zdzislaw Bibrowski was the Assistant Chief of the Polish Neutrality Commission which was sent to Korea in 1953.

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2. [redacted] Comment: A literal translation of the term is "platoon of battalion ammunition cars". This may possibly be a platoon equipped with cars which carry ammunition for the battalion.

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3. [redacted] Comment: "WCZ" was explained [redacted] as a high frequency telephone system (wysoka czestotliwosc).

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